

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PRETOR 03121 310947Z

10

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EUR-25 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 RSR-01 /113 W

----- 105661

R 310921Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8541

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRETORIA 3121

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SF

SUBJECT: MARAIS STEYN RESIGNS TOP UP POST

1. FOLLOWING MEETING OF UNITED PARTY'S (UP) CENTRAL
HEAD COMMITTEE AND PARLIAMENTARY CAUCUS IN JOHANNESBURG
AUGUST 30, MARAIS STEYN, UP MP FOR YEOVILLE, ANNOUNCED
HIS RESIGNATION AS UP'S CHIEF OF INFORMATION. STEYN
SAID HE DECIDED TO GIVE UP HIS POSITION IN LEADERSHIP
OF PARTY BECAUSE "...IT HAS BECOME CLEAR TO ME THAT
THERE ARE UNBRIDGEABLE PERSONALITY PROBLEMS BETWEEN
ME AND MR. HARRY SCHWARZ AND THAT DIFFICULTIES HAVE
ALSO ARisen FOR ME IN CONNECTION WITH IMPORTANT MATTERS
OF PRINCIPLE...." STEYN ALSO SAID, "NOW THAT I NO
LONGER FILL ANY HIGH POSITION IN THE UP I SHALL BE
SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING MY PERSONAL FUTURE IN SOUTH
AFRICAN POLITICS."

2. COMMENT: UP MEETING HAD BEEN CONVENED TO
CONSIDER ISSUE OF CONTROVERSIAL LETTER FROM CENTRAL
HEAD COMMITTEE TO SUNDAY EXPRESS WHICH EXPRESSED
ITS "UNANIMOUS APPRECIATION" FOR SUPPORT THE NEWS-
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PRETOR 03121 310947Z

PAPER HAD GIVEN UP'S OLD GUARD AND ITS OPPOSITION TO

HARRY SCHWARZ AND TRANSVAAL YOUNG TURKS. APPARENTLY
WHATEVER DECISION WAS REACHED AT MEETING WAS FAVORABLE
TO SCHWARZ AND INIMICAL TO STEYN. THIS COULD ONLY
BE VIEWED BY STEYN AS CROWNING BLOW TO HIS PRESTIGE
IN PARTY WHICH BEGAN TO SLIDE WHEN SCHWARZ REPLACED
HIM LAST YEAR AS TRANSVAAL LEADER OF UP. STEYN, WHO
WELL KNOWN TO EMBOFFS, HAS MADE LITTLE EFFORT TO HIDE
HIS BITTERNESS AND DISAPPOINTMENT. HE HAS REFUSED TO
COMMENT ON PRESS SPECULATION THAT HE MIGHT CROSS AISLE
AND JOIN NP. IT POSSIBLE PRIME MINISTER VORSTER COULD
EVEN TRY TO ENTICE HIM WITH OFFER OF CABINET POST.
NEVERTHELESS, IT QUESTIONABLE WHETHER DEPTH OF STEYN'S
BITTERNESS AND POSSIBLE BLANDISHMENTS FROM NATIONALISTS
WOULD BE SUFFICIENT TO IMPELL HIM TO LEAVE PARTY HE HAS
SERVED FOR OVER 30 YEARS AND TO BREAK HIS STRONG FRIEND-
SHIP WITH PARTY LEADER SIR DE VILLIERS GRAAFF.

SMITH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARTY LEADERS, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT, PERSONNEL RESIGNATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973PRETOR03121
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: PRETORIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973082/aaaaabkh.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10-Jan-2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <01-Feb-2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MARAIS STEYN RESIGNS TOP UP POST
TAGS: PINT, SF, UNITED PARTY, UP, (STEYN, MARAIS)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005